

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 30-31, 59-60, 81-82, 87 and 89-105 remain in this application. Claims 1-29, 32-55, 56-58, 61-63, 65, 80, 83-86, and 88 have been canceled. Claims 64 and 66-79 have been withdrawn. Claims 89-105 are new.

Claims 64 and 66-89 have been withdrawn as the result of an earlier restriction requirement.

In view of the Examiner's earlier restriction requirement, applicant retains the right to present claims 64 and 66-79 in a divisional application.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 57-64 and 66 because claim 57 was initially misnumbered, as the claims jump from claim number 55 to claim number 57 and requested that those claims following claim 55 be renumbered. Beginning with original claim number 57, the claims have been renumbered herein, so that original claim 57 is now claim 56, original claim number 58 is now claim number 57, and so on.

The Examiner objected to claims 30, 31, 59, 60, 81, 82 and 87 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claims 30, 31, 59, 60, 81, 82 and 87 in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims.

Applicant respectfully suggests that, as amended, claims 30, 31, 59, 60, 81, 82 and 87 are allowable.

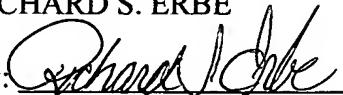
Claims 89-105 are new and are not disclosed or suggested by the prior art of record.

Appl. No. 10/626,294
Amdt. Dated July 18, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 20, 2005

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on July 19, 2006.

Signature: 
Name: Richard S. Erbe
Date: July 19, 2006